

# News Release



# News Release

Santa Rosa County Public Information ▪ 4499 Pine Forest Road ▪ Milton, Florida ▪ 32583 ▪ (850) 983-5254

September 12, 2007  
#070912-MSBUAPPRD

Contact: Joy Tsubooka  
Public Information Officer  
(850) 983-5254

## ***Commission Approves New MSBU Rate*** **-Residents and Business may see Reduction from TRIM Notices-**

After a public hearing last night, the Santa Rosa County Board of County Commissioners voted to approve a new fire MSBU rate schedule for the communities of Allentown, Bagdad, Berrydale, East Milton, Harold, Munson, Pace, Skyline, and Jay. Some residents and many businesses will see a decrease in the amount which was first proposed for the fire MSBU's found on their TRIM notices. The approved MSBU includes two rates for residential structures based on the size of the home and lowered the proposed rate for businesses from five cents per square foot to 2.5 cents per square foot, with a \$150 minimum. The new rates will be used to make much needed improvements to fire and medical services.

The funding will be used to implement a five year plan created by the fire services executive group over several months. The group is made up of chiefs from the nine station areas and the Santa Rosa County Emergency Services Coordinator. At the meeting last night, commissioners directed staff to search for two citizens to participate in the fire services executive group. Additionally, the board asked staff to review an elderly and low income exemption to the fire MSBU prior to next year's MSBU rate hearing.

The fire year plan includes many new initiatives all aimed at increasing the response levels and decreasing response time while maintaining a "no subsidy" ambulance contract. Holley-Navarre, Midway, Avalon and Navarre Beach are special taxing districts and will not be affected. Gulf Breeze and Milton fire services are provided by the municipality.

The new MSBU fire rates for Allentown, Bagdad, Berrydale, East Milton, Harold, Munson, Pace, Skyline, and Jay are:

### **Residential & Mobile Homes not in a Park-** *Square footage determined as living space, not under roof*

0-3500 sq. ft.	\$85.00
3501-above sq. ft.	\$175.00

**Commercial and Multi-family 5+ units-** 2.5 cents per sq. ft., \$150 minimum

**Multi-family less than 5 units and Condos-** 75.00 per unit

**Agricultural and Vacant lots-** 10.00 per one acre parcel and 2 cents per acre over the first acre.

**Sylviculture (Timber)-** 10.00 first 200 acre parcel and .15 cents per acre over 200 acres.

**Recreational vehicle parks and mobile home parks-** \$30.00 per lot

**Hotel and Motel-** \$75 per unit

###